13th March 1954]

E THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I am very well aware that some sections of the people, a majority of them, prefer par-boiled rice. But, unfortunately, when we get rice from outside, we cannot insist on par-boiled rice. I would request the hon. Member to do propaganda that raw rice is as good as par-boiled rice. It is all a question of habit and if only we get accustomed to raw rice, we would not like to go back to par-boiled rice. I am sure such small adjustments in habits could be made. In times of scarcity, when we have to import rice from outside, it should be possible to make at least some small adjustments in our habits."

MR. SPEAKER :—" We have covered only a small number of questions till now. There are a number of questions on to-day's agenda yet to be covered. I want to dispose of the rest of the questions quickly."

Supply of electricity to rural areas.

* 116 *Q.*—SRI A. K. SUBBIAH : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state the number of villages to which supply of electricity was extended in the year 1952–53?

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" During 1952–53 electricity was extended to 206 villages in this State (excluding the villages now forming part of the Andhra State)."

SRI A K. SUBBIAH :—" மின்சார விஸ்தரிப்பு சம்பந்தமாக சாக்காரால், 1952-53-ல் எவ்வளவு ரூபாய் செலவழிக்கப்பட்டது ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It is a very general question and I want time to answer it."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" நமது ராஜ்யத்தில் உற்பத்தியாகும் மின்சார சக்தியில் எவ்வளவு சதவிகிதம் விவசாயத்திற்காக 1952-53-ல் உபயோகிக்கப்பட்டது ? அது முந்திய வருஷத்தைவிட அதிகமா அல்லது குறைவா ? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have not got the figures ready on hand. I shall furnish them if the hon. Member puts a separate question."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Is it a fact that in several rural areas where power is being distributed, the department is now refusing to extend electricity saying that the maximum loads of the transformers have been reached? If it is a fact, will the Government take steps to remove such handicaps? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Government are already considering the difficulties in certain districts where the transformers are overloaded."

SRI G. GOVINDAN :—" 1952-53-ல் ராமனுதபுரம் ஜில்லா விவசாயிகளுக்கு, மின்சாரவசதி விஸ்தரிப்பு வசதிக்காக எவ்வளவு பணம் ஒதுக்கப்பட்டது என்று கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்வார்களா ? "

[13th March 1954

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" A separate question may be put."

SRI B. K. NALLASAMY :—" Now that the power position has improved will the Government consider the question of giving day supply to cultivators, who have entered into a contract for the night supply, in view of the difficulties experienced by them? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I shall have the suggestion considered."

MR. SPEAKER :—" I wish to tell hon. Members that this question relates to the number of villages to which supply of electricity was extended in 1952–53. Hon. Members are going into details. If they want to get information as to details, they may give notice of fresh questions."

SRI S. R. ARUMUGAM :—" பஞ்சப் பிரதேசங்களுக்கு மின்சார வசதி விஸ்தரிப்பதைப்பற்றி சர்க்கார் கவனிக்குமா ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" Under the Five-Year Plan, the target for the composite State in respect of extension of electricity to rural areas was 300 villages. For the residuary Madras State, we have calculated and fixed it as 220 villages per annum and we have covered in 1952–53, 206 villages. I must say that it is a fairly good percentage."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM :—" 250 கிராமங்களுக்கு மின்சார வசதி விஸ்தரிக்கப்பட்டதாக மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொன்னார்கள். மொத்தம் எவ்வளவு கிராமங்களிலிருந்து மின்சார வசதி விஸ்தரிப்பதற்காக மனுக்கள் வந்திருந்தன என்பதையும் கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் தெரிவிப்பாரா ?"

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" There is a widespread demand for electricity throughout the State. I have not got the figures which the hon. Member wants. That there is a demand for electricity is conceded. We are trying to do our best."

SRI ANTONY PETER :—" May I know from the Hon. Minister whether they have advanced any loans to licensee concerns in licensee areas? "

THE HON. RAJA SRI SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have not got the figures on hand with reference to licensee areas and other areas. If a separate question is put, I shall be able to answer it. As to the provision relating to the grant of loans, we have also provided this year as well as in the past for loans to licensees."

Grievances of the elementary school teachers of Malabar.

* 117 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware of the decision of the Malabar Aided Elementary School Teachers' Union to send a jatha of elementary school teachers to Madras and to demonstrate before the Assembly on 26th February 1954 to show their protest against